

May 12, 1975

was an amendment to the Committee amendment which was forthcoming. If it is not, I would like to see it...

PRESIDENT: Senator Marvel, could you respond?

SENATOR MARVEL: I have the Committee amendments that the majority of the Committee approved and I am about to take them up there so I think you hold yours until they have been offered and then Senator Simpson will speak to the amendment that you want to amend.

SENATOR BURROWS: I would request it be held for the amendment it applies to. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Well, it is going to be held until the Committee amendments are offered. So ordered.

CLERK: Now, Mr. President, the next amendment is offered by Senator Maresh. Read amendment. See Page 1766, Journal.

SENATOR MARESH: Mr. President, members, I tried this amendment on General File but came short four votes. Some of the rural Senators weren't here that day so I promised I would try this again on Select File. At that time, I didn't have any concrete evidence from the Ag College to pass out but this morning I passed out material justifying this increase in the research there and this is a letter to Senator Marvel stating, from Dr. Hartung there at the Ag Center, stating that greenbugs are the most limiting factor in the production of grain sorghum in Nebraska. Losses in Nebraska from the 1968 greenbug attack on sorghum has been conservatively estimated at 3 1/2 million dollars. This figure includes losses due to grain yield reductions and cost of chemical controls but does not include extensive damage to forage sorghum. Although these high dollar losses have changed from year to year since 1968, greenbugs have continued to be a serious threat to sorghum crops in Nebraska. The control method that shows great promise in reducing sorghum losses in Nebraska is the development of sorghum lines resistant to greenbugs. A technician would assist the entomologist and agronomist primarily in production and management of insect infestations in the field and laboratory in order to secure the maximum differences between resistant and susceptible selections, evaluation and the degree of resistance of related plant species, selections, calibers and segregating plant populations. Then I also presented to the body a clipping from this morning's Star where Dominick Costello, the Farm Editor, states that Dr. Dwayne Aucker probably left the Ag Center because of the Legislature not appropriating sufficient funds to different programs. So I think it is important to keep a good strong agricultural economy and that we should provide personnel for these research programs and I would move that this amendment be adopted.

SENATOR SAVAGE PRESIDING

SPEAKER: Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I have a question for Senator Richard Maresh, please.